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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/007,114	12/03/2001	Xiaodong Luo	4320.P057	2142
25096	7590	02/27/2006	EXAMINER	
PERKINS COIE LLP			JELINEK, BRIAN J	
PATENT-SEA			ART UNIT	
P.O. BOX 1247			PAPER NUMBER	
SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247			2615	
DATE MAILED: 02/27/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/007,114	LUO, XIAODONG	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Brian Jelinek	2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 2/1/2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is a first office action in response to application no. 10/007,114 filed on 12/3/2001 in which claims 1-8 are presented for examination.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the specification is missing a description of Fig. 3 in the "Brief Description of the Drawings". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,388,709).

Regarding claim 1, Kobayashi discloses an image sensor comprising: a plurality of pixels formed into a two-dimensional sensing array, each of said pixels adapted for converting incident light into an electrical signal; and a plurality of color filters formed over said plurality of pixels, said color filters having an opacity that varies in accordance with the intensity of incident light (cols. 19-26).

Regarding claim 2, Kobayashi discloses means for detecting the intensity of said incident light and means for applying an electrical signal to said color filters to vary the opacity (Fig. 22, charge detector 120 and filter controller 122; col. 20, lines 23-29).

Regarding claim 3, Kobayashi discloses that the color filters are formed from a photosensitive material that increases in opacity as the intensity of said incident light increases (col. 20, line 53-col. 21, line 2).

Regarding claim 4, Kobayashi discloses the color filters are comprised of red, green, and blue filters (col. 17, lines 35-49).

Regarding claim 5, Kobayashi discloses a method, comprising: forming a sensing array comprised of a two-dimensional array of pixels, said pixels adapted to convert incident light into an electrical signal; depositing color filters over said array of pixels, said color filters formed from a material that has a variable opacity (cols. 19-26).

Regarding claim 6, Kobayashi discloses the material has an opacity that is dependent upon the intensity of incident light (col. 20, line 53-col. 21, line 2).

Regarding claim 7, Kobayashi discloses the material has opacity that can be controlled by an electrical signal (Fig. 22, filter controller 122; col. 20, lines 23-29).

Regarding claim 8, Kobayashi disclose forming means for detecting the intensity of the incident light (Fig. 22, charge detector 120; col. 20, lines 23-29).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Jelinek whose telephone number is (571) 272-

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7366. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ngoc-Yen Vu can be reached at (571) 272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Brian Jelinek
2/13/2006


NGOC-YEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER